

A/N: 10/718,037  
Reply to Office Action of 01.26.06  
Page 3 of 13

### IN THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application:

1. (Currently Amended) A fireplace, comprising:  
an enclosure defining a combustion chamber; and  
a backlighting system positioned at a back portion of the enclosure and including at least one light source to shine light upon components of the fireplace;  
a control system positioned in the fireplace and operably connected to the backlighting system; and  
a sensor positioned in the combustion chamber and operably coupled to the control system, wherein the sensor senses a state of the fireplace and the control system controls the backlighting system depending on the state of the fireplace.
2. (Original) The fireplace of claim 1, wherein the enclosure includes a lower panel defining an opening in the back portion of the combustion chamber, and wherein the light source is positioned at least partially below the lower panel so that the light from the light source shines through the opening into the combustion chamber.
3. (Original) The fireplace of claim 1, wherein the backlighting system is positioned within the enclosure so as not to be visible through an opening defined by the combustion chamber.
4. (Original) The fireplace of claim 1, wherein at least a portion of a back panel of the enclosure defines a lattice structure, and wherein the light source is configured to shine the light on the lattice structure.
5. (Original) The fireplace of claim 1, wherein the backlighting system includes more than one light source positioned at the back portion of the enclosure.

A/N: 10/718,037  
Reply to Office Action of 01.26.06  
Page 4 of 13

6. (Original) The fireplace of claim 1, wherein the light source is configured to withstand high temperature generated by the fireplace.
7. (Original) The fireplace of claim 1, wherein the light source includes a halogen bulb and a ceramic socket.
8. (Canceled)
9. (Currently Amended) A fireplace, comprising:  
an enclosure defining a combustion chamber; and  
a backlighting system positioned at a back portion of the enclosure and including at least one light source to shine light upon components of the fireplace The fireplace of claim 1, wherein the backlighting system is configured to modulate an intensity of the light provided by the light source based on an intensity of a flame generated in the fireplace.
10. (Currently Amended) The fireplace of claim 1, wherein the backlighting system control system is configured to turn on the light source when a natural fire is not being simulated within the fireplace.
11. (Currently Amended) The fireplace of claim 1, wherein the backlighting system control system is configured to turn on the light source when a natural fire is being simulated within the fireplace.
12. (Currently Amended) The fireplace of claim 1, ~~further comprising~~ wherein the sensor is a photocell module coupled to the backlighting system, and wherein the photocell module turns the backlighting system on and off depending on an amount of light in the enclosure of the fireplace.
13. (Currently Amended) The fireplace of claim 1, ~~further comprising~~ wherein the sensor is a photocell module coupled to the backlighting system, and wherein the photocell module turns the backlighting system on and off depending on an amount of light outside of the fireplace.

A/N: 10/718,037  
Reply to Office Action of 01.26.06  
Page 5 of 13

14. (Currently Amended) The fireplace of claim 1, wherein the backlighting system control system further includes a manual control that is manually controlled by a user of the fireplace.
15. (Currently Amended) A fireplace, comprising:  
an enclosure defining a combustion chamber and an open front, the enclosure including at least a lower panel and a back panel;  
a burner positioned adjacent to the lower panel;  
a log set positioned adjacent to the burner; and  
a backlighting system positioned between the log set and the back panel of the enclosure, the system including a light source to shine light upon components of the fireplace including at least the back panel;  
a control system positioned in the fireplace and operably connected to the backlighting system; and  
a sensor positioned in the combustion chamber and operably coupled to the control system, wherein the sensor senses a state of the fireplace and the control system controls the backlighting system depending on the state of the fireplace.
16. (Original) The fireplace of claim 15, wherein the enclosure includes a lower panel defining an opening in the back portion of the combustion chamber, and wherein the light source is positioned at least partially below the lower panel so that the light from the light source shines through the opening into the combustion chamber.
17. (Original) The fireplace of claim 15, wherein at least a portion of the back panel of the enclosure defines a lattice structure, and wherein the light source is positioned to shine the light on the lattice structure.
18. (Canceled)
19. (Original) The fireplace of claim 15, wherein the light source is positioned adjacent to a burner of the fireplace.

A/N: 10/718,037  
Reply to Office Action of 01.26.06  
Page 6 of 13

20. (Currently Amended) A method of providing backlighting for a fireplace, comprising:
- providing an enclosure defining a combustion chamber and an open front, the enclosure including at least a lower panel and a back panel;
  - providing a log set positioned in the enclosure;
  - positioning a backlighting system including a light source in a back portion of the enclosure behind the log set; and
  - placing a sensor in the combustion chamber and connecting the sensor to a control system;
  - sensing a state of the fireplace with the control system; and
  - controlling the backlighting system depending on the state of the fireplace whereby the backlighting system shines ~~shining~~ light from the light source onto the back panel of the enclosure.
21. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the step of positioning the backlighting system further comprises:
- defining an aperture in the lower panel of the enclosure; and
  - positioning the light source so that the light shines through the aperture and into the enclosure.
22. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the step of providing the enclosure further comprises:
- forming a lattice structure on at least a portion of the back panel of the enclosure; and
  - positioning the light source to shine the light on the lattice structure.
23. (Canceled)
24. (Original) The method of claim 20, further comprising modulating the light source of the backlighting system depending on a state of a flame generated in the combustion chamber.
25. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the step of positioning the backlighting system further comprises positioning the backlighting system adjacent to a burner of the fireplace.

A/N: 10/718,037  
Reply to Office Action of 01.26.06  
Page 7 of 13

26. (New) The fireplace of claim 9, further comprising a photocell module coupled to the backlighting system, wherein the photocell module turns the backlighting system on and off depending on an amount of light in the enclosure of the fireplace.

27. (New) The fireplace of claim 9, further comprising a photocell module coupled to the backlighting system, wherein the photocell module turns the backlighting system on and off depending on an amount of light outside of the fireplace.